

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>P 20345 PC 00</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. <b>PCT/NO2004/000225</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>21.07.2004</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>22.07.2003</b>
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC <b>B63H25/14, F17C1/00, F17C13/00</b>		
Applicant <b>KNUTSEN OAS SHIPPING AS et al</b>		

1.	This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3.	This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. </div> </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions). </div> </div>
4.	This report contains indications relating to the following items: <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report  <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority  <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability  <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement  <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited  <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application  <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application </div>

Date of submission of the demand <b>06.04.2005</b>	Date of completion of this report <b>25.10.2005</b>
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/SE Patent- och registreringsverket Box 5055 S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. +46 8 667 72 88	Authorized officer  <b>Carl Fröderberg/EK</b> Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/NO2004/000225

Box No. I

Basis of the report

## 1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:



the international application in the language in which it was filed

a translation of the international application into \_\_\_\_\_,  
which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))



publication of the international application (Rule 12.4(a))



international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

the international application as originally filed/furnished



the description:

pages \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_



the claims:

pages \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_



the drawings:

pages \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_

pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_



a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_



the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_



the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_

the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_



the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_



the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_

the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/NO2004/000225

**Box No. V** Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

## 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-7</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-7</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-7</u>	YES
	Claims		NO

## 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

## Documents cited in the International Search Report:

D1: WO 9716678 A1  
D2: US 3886885 A  
D3: US 3319433 A  
D4: US 3863460 A  
D5: US 3537416 A

The cited documents represent the general state of the art.

The invention defined in claims 1- 7 is not disclosed by any of these documents.

The cited prior art does not give any indication that would lead a person skilled in the art to the claimed device for protecting a vessel's loading space provided with holds in that a ventilating duct extends along the holds, in that each hold is connected to the ventilating duct and in that the ventilating duct is separated in a gastight manner from the remaining rooms of the ship or the claimed method for protecting a vessel's loading space provided with holds in that a valve opens between the hold and a ventilating duct which extends along the hold and in that the ventilating duct is separated in a gastight manner from the remaining rooms of the ship. Therefore, the claimed invention is not obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Accordingly, the invention defined in claims 1- 7 is novel and is considered to involve an inventive step. The invention is industrially applicable.